In re application of: Robert M. Carmichael

Serial No.: 09/730,116 Filed: December 5, 2000

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section, said first section of said side releasable buckle attached to said first strap said second section of said side releasable buckle attached to said second strap, wherein prior to release of said ballast member said first section and said second section are connected to each other.

5. (Amended) The active control releasable ballast system of claim 1 wherein said second strap is adapted for attachment to said dive equipment.

of claim 1 wherein a location of said side releasable buckle with respect to said receiving pocket provides for a single point active fastening device and handle for active control of said ballast pre insertion, during use and post release of said ballast.

15. (Amended) The buoyancy compensator of claim 14 wherein said active control releasable ballast system further including:

- a ballast receiving pocket;
- a ballast member disposed within sai/d receiving pocket;
- a first strap attached at least proximate to said receiving pocket; and

a second strap attached at least proximate to said receiving pocket;

wherein said first section of said side releasable buckle attached to said first strap, said second section of said side releasable buckle attached to said second strap, wherein prior to removable of said ballast member from said receiving pocket said first section and said second section are connected to each other.

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BY